

Message Text

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USDEL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (HEADING: ADD JIDDA AS INFO ADDRESSEE)

DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJ: STATEMENTS BY FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON AND SECRETARY

1. TRANSCRIPT OF FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON'S STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME SECRETARY OF STATE AND MADAME KISSINGER, MR. SISCO AND THEIR TEAM UPON THEIR ARRIVAL AFTER A LONG INTERVAL. IT IS SELF-UNDERSTOOD THAT THE TIME WHICH PASSED SINCE MARCH TO THIS DAY WAS NOT WASTED. ALL PARTIES CONCERNED DID THEIR BEST TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR SHARE IN GETTING THE POLITICAL MOMENTUM REVIVED. EVERY ONE WHO IS INTERESTED TO AVOID STAGNATION AND TO ACHIEVE PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE - JUST AND LASTING PEACE - BASED ON MUTUAL INTERESTS OF OUR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL, AND SINCE WE ARE CONCENTRATING ON A POSSIBLE INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT, EVERYONE

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WHO IS INTERESTED IN THAT SHOULD REALLY DO HIS BEST TO FIND OUT

WHETHER SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE OR NOT. WELL, I WAS NEVER GOOD IN MATHEMATICS, NOT TOOD IN MATHEMATICS, NOT TO BE TOO MODEST, AND I CANNOT JUDGE WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS PERCENTAGE WISE. I AM AFRAID THAT MY AMERICAN FRIENDS ARE BETTER IN MATHEMATICS THAN I AM. BUT SOMEHOW I HAVE THE FEELING, AND I THINK THAT I CAN SAFELY, THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED MORE THAN EVER BEFORE. NEVERTHLESS THERE IS A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE THROUGH THE SHUTTLE. WE SHALL DO OUR BEST TO SEE TO IT THAT THE SHUTTLE WILL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS, BECAUSE IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT CAN HELD AND WILL SERVE THE INTERESTS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL AND THE REST OF THE WORLD IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS OCCUPYING A LEADING POSITION, SO WELCOME AGAIN AND ALL THE VERY BEST. END QUOTE.

2. TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: MR. FOREIGN MINISTER:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARM AND GENEROUS COMMENTS.

I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE BACK IN ISRAEL AND AT THE RENEWED PROSPECTS FOR PEACE WHICH HAVE BROUGHT ME HERE.

I LEFT ISRAEL LAST MARCH WITH A HEAVY HEART, FEARING THAT STILL ANOTHER HORRIBLE TRAGEDY WAS IN STORE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

I RETURN TODAY WITH THE SAME CONCERNS BUT WITH RENEWED HOPE THAT A STRONG DESIRE FOR PEACE WILL PREVAIL OVER TENDENCIES TOWARD WAR. ALL PARTIES HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECONSIDER THEIR ATTITUDES. SUFFICIENT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE DISCUSSIONS DURING THE INTERIM TO WARRANT A MORE INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC EFFORT IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

PRESIDENT FORD HAS SENT ME HERE TO PROVIDE THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE UNITED STAES SUPPORT FOR PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE AND TO CONSULT WITH ISRAELI LEADERS ON HOW BEST TO DO THIS IN A MANNER WHICH WILL PROTECT ISRAEL'S SECURITY AND MAINTAIN THE CLOSENESS OF US-ISRAELI RELATIONS. AMERICANS KNOW FIRST-HAND FROM FIVE YEARS IN WASHINGTON PRIME MINISTER RABIN'S COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND HIS VIGILANCE IN PROTECTING ISRAEL'S UNCLASSIFIED

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SECURITY. JOINED BY FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON AND DEFENSE MINISTER PERES, I CAN RECALL THE CONVICTION AND FIRMNESS WITH WHICH THEY CONDUCTED DISCUSSIONS LAST MARCH. NOW FIVE MONTHS LATER THE GAP IN THE NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALY NARROWED, BY CONCESSIONS ON BOTH SIDES. ISRAEL'S CONTRIBUTION REFLECTS NOT A WEAKENED RESOLVE, BUT THE CONVICTION THAT ISRAEL'S STRENGTH, TO WHICH WE HAVE CONTRIBUTED AND TO WHICH WE SHALL CONTINUED TO CONTRIBUTE GIVES IT THE POSSIBILITY

TO DEDICATE ITSELF TO PEACE WITHOUT FEAR.

THERE ARE STILL ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED. BUT WITH GOODWILL, PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING ON BOTH SIDES IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO BRING TO A CLOSE THIS PHASE OF DIPLOMACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITH POSITIVE RESULTS SERVING THE INTERESTS OF BOTH SIDES AND THE CAUSE OF PEACE IN THE AREA.

I KNOW THESE ARE NOT EASY TIMES FOR ISRAEL. THE STRIVING FOR PEACE CARRIES WITH IT EXERTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES NO LESS AWESOME THAN SACRIFICES FOR WAR. EVERY COURSE HAS RISKS. TOGETHER WITH OUR FRIENDS, THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL, WE BELIEVE THAT THE RISKS OF INACTION ARE THE GRAVEST OF ALL.

I KNOW ALSO THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE GONE THROUGH A DIFFICULT PERIOD. THIS HAS ENDED AND WE HAVE EMERGED FROM OUR DIALOGUE STRENGTHENED IN OUR FRIENDSHIP AND DETERMINED TO PURSUE COMMON POLICIES. ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES ARE BOUND TOGETHER IN COMMON PURPOSES-- A WORLD ENVISAGED IN THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS--A WORLD IN WHICH THE RESORT TO FORCE BECOMES UNNECESSARY AND DISPUTES ARE RESOLVED BY PEACEFUL MEANS. SUCH A WORLD IS UNTHINKABLE WITHOUT A SECURE ISRAEL.

PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST DEPENDS ON MANY FACTORS AND BOTH SIDES MUST MAKE A CONTRIBUTION. AT THE SAME TIME WE KNOW VERY WELL THAT ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL INGREDIENTS OF PEACE MUST BE THE STEADFASTNESS OF THE AMERICAN-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP-- A STEADFASTNESS THAT CONTRIBUTED DECISIVELY TO THE CREATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL--A STEADFASTNESS WHICH HAS HELPED PROTECT ISRAEL'S SECURITY FOR OVER A QUARTER OF A CENTURY-- A STEADFASTNESS ON WHICH ISRAEL CAN RELY IN THE FUTURE.

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IT IS IN THE SPIRIT THAT WE WILL BE CONDUCTING OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS, AS EQUALS JOINED IN THE COMMON OBJECTIVE OF ACHIEVING PRACTICAL PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AS FRIENDS WHO ONLY WANT THE BEST FOR EACH OTHER, AS PARTNERS TOWARDS THE GOAL WHICH NO PEOPLE WANT MORE AND DESERVE MORE THAT THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL WHOSE HEROISM AND SUFFERING HAVE CREATED AND PRESERVED THEIR STATE THROUGH ALL VICISSITUDES.

I FERVENTLY HOPE THAT WHEN I LEAVE ISRAEL WE CAN BOTH SAY WITH PRIDE THAT OUR TALKS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL, TO THE STRENGTHENING OF US-ISRAELI RELATIONS, AND TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.
KISSINGER

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